(e) to (g) This Department has recommended lower customs duty on inputs for basic drug production and higher duties on intermediates and the finished products.

Impact of OPEC decision on oil imports

998. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRI SHEO KUMAR MISHRA:
SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what will be the impact of the OPEC decision in regard to world oil prices, on cost of oil imports by India and also due to increase in quantum of oil imports; and

(b) what measures are being taken to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) The cost of oil imports is likely to be higher as the general level of prices is higher.

(b) The Government are constantly watching the market situation to derive the best advantage in its purchases of crude oil.

Ban on import of rifampicin

999. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has recommended for a ban on the import of Rifampicin;

(b) if so, on what consideration such a recommendation has been made;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Rifampicin is used for the treatment of TB and Leprosy;

(d) whether it is also a fact that our Government are committed to provide these medicines at cheap prices to unfortunate poor class of society under the 20-Point Programme;

(e) whether it is also a fact that in order to provide this medicine at cheap price, Government have exempted customs duty;

(f) what is the fair price fixed for indigenous price per kg. and what is the imported landed cost alongwith the difference per kg.; and

(g) what is the foreign exchange involved in value per kg. in the production and import of finished drug alongwith total per annum loss on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir.

(f) and (g) The indigenous price fixed for Rifampicin is Rs. 3000/- per kg. and imported landed cost during 1985-86 was around Rs. 3176.85 per kg. Since the imported drug costs more, the question of loss does not arise.

Recovery of amounts under DPEA

1000. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how many notices for recovery under the Drug Price Equalisation Accounts have been issued so far with date of issue of each notice, product covered, amount shown in the notice, if any;

(b) when were the first notices issued along with the hormes of parties date and other particulars;

(c) whether it is a fact that issuance of notices has been stopped, if so, since when and at whose instance and whether his approval has been sought in this direction;